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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE
REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
[US/US]; Technology Management Office, Wolverine
Tower, Room 2071, 3003 S. State Street, Ann Arbor, MI
48109 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): LIM, Hubert, H.
[US/US]; 610 Hidden Valley Club Drive, Apartment 211,
Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (US). ANDERSON, David, J.
[US/US]; 2955 Lakehurst Court, Ann Arbor, MI 48105
(US). WILER, James, A. [US/US]; 6540 Cowell Road,

Brighton, MI 48116 (US). HETKE, Jamille, F. [US/US];
10724 Hewitt Road, Brooklyn, MI 49230 (US).

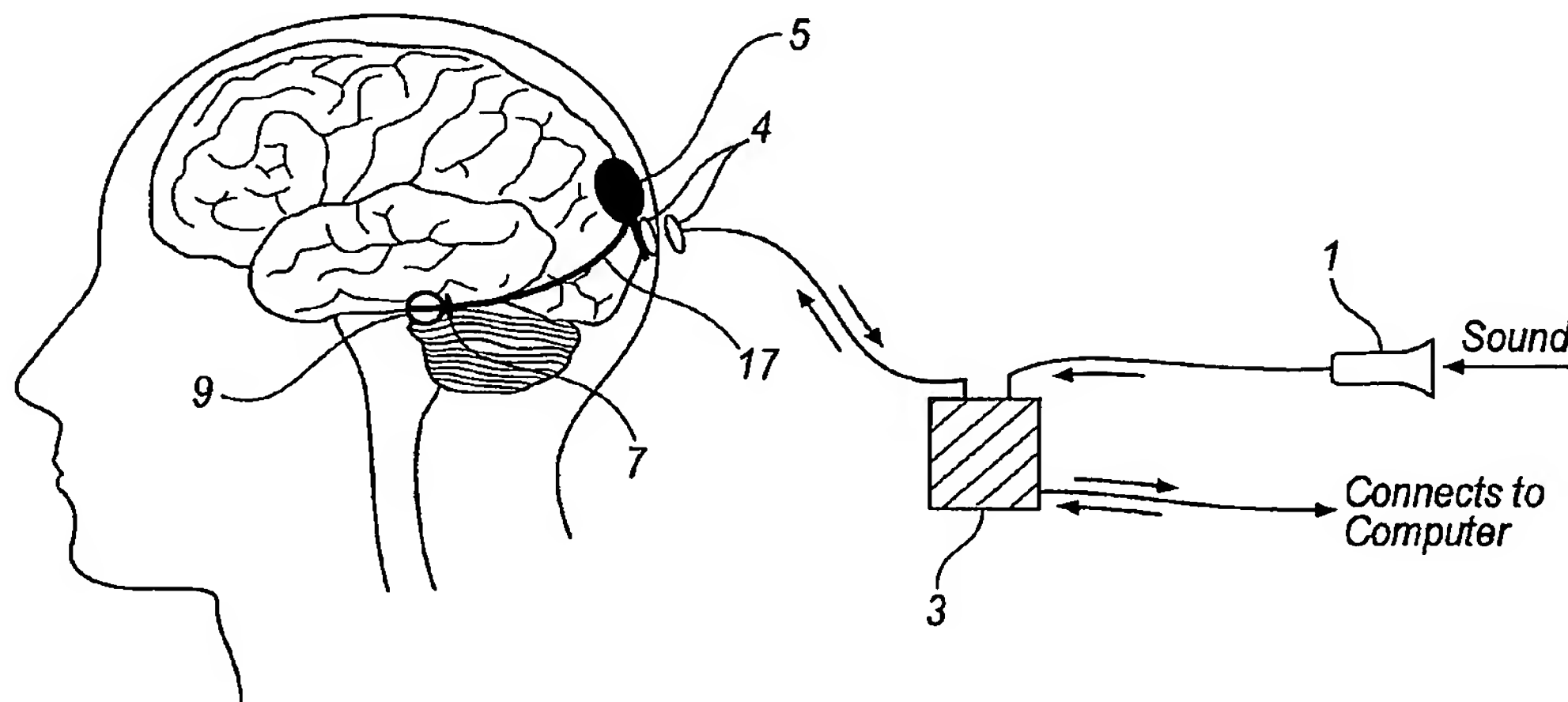
(74) Agent: KAMP, James, F.; Rader, Fishman & Grauer
PLLC, 39533 Woodward Avenue, Suite 140, Bloomfield
Hills, MI 48304 (US).

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(54) Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR INDUCING INTELLIGIBLE HEARING



(57) Abstract: The present invention comprises systems and methods for inducing auditory sensations in patients by stimulating the inferior colliculus of the mammalian midbrain. In some embodiments, the invention comprises an auditory prosthesis system comprising a microphone, a sound processor, a current stimulator, and one or more stimulating electrodes disposed in the inferior colliculus of a mammal. At least one of the stimulating electrodes may be comprised of one or more shanks, each shank comprised of one or more stimulation sites. In some embodiments, without limitation, the invention comprises methods of inducing auditory sensation in a mammal, comprising the steps of providing a microphone, a sound processor, and a current stimulator; providing one or more stimulating electrodes each comprised of two or more shanks, each shank comprised of one or more stimulation sites; disposing at least one stimulating electrode in the inferior colliculus of a mammal; and stimulating at least one isofrequency lamina of the inferior colliculus by applying an electrical signal through at least one of the stimulation sites.

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